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62. The assembly according to claim 46, further comprising a needle disposed between the first and second jaws.

63. The assembly according to claim 62, wherein the needle has a pointed end.

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, applicants have canceled claims 1 - 21, without relinquishment of the subject matter therein, and added new claims 22 - 63. Applicants request the consideration of this application and the examination and allowance of claims 22 - 63.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our deposit Account No. 06-0916. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By: Leslie I. Bookoff

Leslie I. Bookoff
Reg. No. 38,084

Dated: March 23, 1998